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ABERRANT SPEYERIA IDALIA

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I COLLECTED THE SPECIMEN on a patch of virgin prairie where Hesperia dacotae flies. Hundreds of S. idalia were present. Males had been flying for several days, but females were just starting. This aberrant male was not interested in feeding at the numerous coneflowers it passed. It was drifting with the wind and occasionally checking a bunch of grasses in typical female search behavior. In flight, it looked very much like a normal S. idalia, but slightly darker. It was taken, on the wing, about two miles from where it was first sighted.

COVER ILLUSTRATION

Fig. 1.—Male Speyeria idalia. 2 miles NW of McLeod, Ransom Co., North Dakota. 10 July 1973. Tim L. McCabe. Dorsal view.

Fig. 2.—Same, Ventral view.